



UNITED STATES MINT NEWS & VIEWS

DAVID LEBRYK, ACTING DIRECTOR
SEPTEMBER 2005

KANSAS QUARTER DEBUTS AT OPENING OF STATE FAIR



A female horseback riding team delivered bags of new Kansas state quarters to United States Mint Acting Director David Lebryk

and Governor Kathleen Sebelius at the opening ceremony of the Kansas State Fair, officially launching the "Buffalo and Sunflowers" quarter. A real American bison and her calf stood not far from the crowd, a reminder that Kansas is the first state to use the image of a buffalo, the state animal, on its quarter. The 34th in the 50 State Quarters Program, the Kansas quarter also features three sunflowers, the state flower.

"The new quarter is a wonderful representation of the beauty and history of the great plains of Kansas," said Acting Director David Lebryk. "The buffalo honors the early days of Kansas statehood, when millions of buffalo roamed the Kansas prairie. Sunflowers, first cultivated by Native Americans over 3000 years ago, continue to light up Kansas fields and roadsides every September."

HISTORIAN'S OFFICE DISPLAYS ARTIFACTS AT SUMMER ANA

Among the exhibits displayed by the United States Mint for this year's ANA World's Fair of Money was a presentation by the Agency's Historian's Office. With a special focus on the original Jefferson nickel, the display



included many one-of-a-kind items that have never before been on public display. These include original photographs, ledger books and correspondence, including a letter from Director Nellie Tayloe Ross to



artist Felix Schlag, informing him that his design had been chosen for the 1938 nickel. Visitors to the United States Mint's booth were also able to view copies of Schlag's original designs, complete with comments referencing their coinability. The artist's original reverse design, in particular, may be unfamiliar to many collectors as it featured a more angled view of Monticello.

VIRTUAL TOUR II SHOWS NUMISMATIC PROCESSES

Following the successful launch of last year's Virtual Tour, an online, multimedia presentation detailing the step-by-step circulating coin production process, the United States Mint debuted a sequel at this summer's ANA conference in San Francisco.

The new tour, dubbed Virtual Tour II, takes viewers on a multimedia tour of the numismatic production processes, focusing on



the United States Mint's facilities in San Francisco, where most of the proof coin production takes place, and West Point, where the silver, gold and platinum American Eagle coins are manufactured. Set to debut in late July, the tour will be offered as both streaming video as well as a slide-show compilation of still photography with accompanying text.



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UNCIRCULATED SET DEBUTS WITH NEW SATIN FINISH

Sales of the 2005 United States Mint Uncirculated Coin Set began on May 31, 2005, and for the first time ever, the coins in this popular set features a satin finish. The release for this set is three weeks earlier than in 2004, as part of the United States



Mint's commitment to making many of its products available earlier in the year, at the request of its customers.

The United States Mint chose the new satin finish for its beauty and to provide consistency for United States Mint uncirculated products, including the Uncirculated Coin Set, Commemorative Coins and American Eagle Silver Bullion coins. The satin finish, which will be continued on uncirculated coin sets in the future, will also help collectors differentiate between Uncirculated Coins in the United States Mint Uncirculated Coin Sets and those coins in bags and rolls that have never circulated. The 22 coin set contains "P" and "D" versions of all 11 circulating coins issued for 2005, including the five new coins released in the 50 State Quarters® Program and both the American Bison and Ocean in View nickels, this year's additions to the Westward Journey Nickel Series™.

UNITED STATES MINT AMERICAN LEGACY COLLECTION™ NEW FOR 2005

The United States Mint recently took the wraps off a new premium product. With proof versions of all regular issue United States Mint circulating coins, the new American Legacy Collection also includes a proof version of both the Chief Justice John Marshall and Marine Corps 230th Anniversary Silver Dollars. By combining these two commemoratives with the 2005-dated circulating coins in proof condition, the American Legacy Collection is the most complete offering of United States Mint coins available, and is reminiscent of the United States Mint's Prestige Set, offered in years past.

UNITED STATES MINT H.I.P. POCKET CHANGE™ FEATURES OREGON QUARTER



As an ongoing part of the United States Mint's Education Initiative, several items featuring the newly released Oregon state quarter have recently been added to the United States Mint H.I.P. Pocket Change™ website, including a large black and white blow-up of the coin that kids can download and color as part of Oregon State Quarter Day in the Classroom. The site also features the following three new Lesson Plans specific to the Oregon quarter for grades K-6; Crater Creation (K-1), Let's Look at Legends (2-3), and Explosive Ideas! (4-6).



Lesson plans are also available for grades 7-12 and include such topics as developing a national identity, Roman culture and coins, the Industrial Revolution and global views on currency. These plans can be found at www.usmint.gov/kids and all are free to download and distribute.